the total production in Coal India and the Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. for the last three years were as follows:—

(Figure in Million tonnes)

Years	Demand	Production
1989-90	222.00	200.89
1990-91	229.80	211.73
1991-92	237.00	229.28

(c) and (d) The coking coal imports for 1992-93 are estimated at 6.00 million tonnes (MT).

In addition, Tamil Nadu Electicity Board and Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd., may import of 2 M.T. and 1 M.T. of non-coking coal respectively. The value of imports cannot presently be determined as the contracts have not been finalised.

(e) The indigenous non-coking coal production is adequate to meet the overall demand of various consumers. Adequate investments are being planned during the 8th Plan to meet the increased requirements in the plan period.

Coal India Limited is also taking following steps to improve the coking coal availability to Steel Plants and thereby reduce imports:

(i) About 2.5 million tonnes additional non-linked washery coal of relatively better quality is expected to be made available to existing washeries.

(ii) Modification of existing coking coal washeries by implementation of recommendations of Technical Group.

(iii) Augmentation of Power supplies to washeries through direct feeders as well as installation of Captive Power Plants.

(iv) Opening of new coking coal mines and increasing production of coking coal from the existing mines through augmentation/reorganisation scheme.

(v) Commissioning of two new coking coal washeries at Madhuban and Kedla which would increase the washing capacity by 5 million tonnes of raw coal.

(vi) Intensifying coking coal mining in Assam and Meghalaya to make available increase quantities of low ash coking coal.

(vii) Allowing private sector participation in setting up coal washeries which will help in augmenting the total washing capacity.

Regional Exploration of Coking Coal

3032. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state what are Government's proposals to intensify regional exploration efforts to locate coking coal outside the Jharia Coalfields and superior non-coking coal outside the Reniganj Coalfields?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGOUDA): Regional exploration for the purpose of locating new coal resources is carried out by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) on a continuous basis. Due to various steps taken by the GSI to intensify regional exploration over the past three years, additional reserves of Coking coal have been located in East and West Bokaro and South Karanpura Coalfields of Bihar and Sohagpur, Pench Coalifields of Madhya Pradesh, Superior grade ('A' and 'B' grades) non-Coking coal resources have been located in Korba and CIC Coalfields of Madhya Pradesh and Godavari Valley Coalfields of Andhra Pradesh.